

ABERTILLERY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Medical Officer of Health
REPORT

For the Year

1953

J. R. DAVIES (PRINTERS) LTD.,
ABERTILLERY



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Abertillery Urban District Council.

COUNCILLORS.

Chairman	-	-	-	W. E. J. DERRICK.
Vice-Chairman	-	-	-	I. POPE.

WARDS.

Cwmtillery.

G. R. SHINGLER.
F. YEMM.
R. BAKER
Mrs. U. VERRIER.
D. J. MORGAN.
T. H. MYTTON.

Abertillery.

S. R. HARRIS.
E. T. PHINNEMORE.
W. E. J. DERRICK.
Mrs. F. J. BROWN.
R. S. WOOD.

Six Bells.

H. S. SNELGROVE.
W. H. HILLMAN.

Aberbeeg.

R. G. RICE, J.P.
I. POPE.
E. BULL.

Llanhilleth.

W. H. JONES.
S. T. BUTLER

Day of Meeting—Last Monday in each Month,
at 6 p.m.

Clerk of the Council	-	-	H. J. WILLIAMS. F.C.C.S.
Surveyor and Water Engineer	-	-	A. GORDON JONES, M.I.M.C.E.
Accountant and Treasurer	-	-	R. L. ENGLAND.
Rating and Valuation Officer	-	-	H. P. BREWER, F.R.V.A.
Housing Manager	-	-	C. E. COLES.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

The Committee consists of all Members of the Council.

Councillor S. HARRIS, Chairman.

**Day of Meeting—Second Monday
in each Month.**

Medical Officer of Health	-	J. WALTERS BOWEN, M.B., B.CH., B.SC., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector (Senr.) and Shops Inspector	- -	G. A. PARRY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Deputy Sanitary Inspector	- -	J. L. JONES, A.R.S.I.
Sanitary Inspector	- -	D. G. GRIFFITHS, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Rodent Officer	- -	L. JONES.

ABERTILLERY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Area of District	..	..	..	..	..	6464 acres
Rateable Value, December 31, 1953	..	..	..	..	..	£98,276
Estimated Net Product of 1d. Rate, 1953	..	..	..	..	..	£355
Population (Estimated Mid 1953)	..	..	..	..	..	27,150
Population (Estimated Mid 1952)	..	..	..	..	..	27,320
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, 1953	..	..	..	..	..	16.4
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, 1952	..	..	..	..	..	17.07
Live Births, 1953	..	..	..	..	..	446
Live Births, 1952	..	..	..	..	..	487
Number of Deaths, 1953	..	..	..	..	..	328
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	12.0
Number of Deaths, 1952	..	..	..	..	..	324
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	11.8
Infant Mortality Rate, 1953	..	..	..	..	..	33.6
Infant Mortality Rate, 1952	..	..	..	..	..	49.2



Abertillery Urban District Council.

REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH TO THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ABERTILLERY FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1952.

*To the Chairman and Members of
Abertillery Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Abertillery Urban District is situated in the Western Valleys of Monmouthshire, 13 miles north-west of Newport, and 20 miles south-west of Monmouth.

Its greatest length, north to south is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles, while it varies in breadth, east to west, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It has an area of $10\frac{1}{4}$ square miles, being one of the largest Urban Districts in the County. The population is 27,150, and the rateable value is £93,276, (Abertillery £72,951, Llanhilleth £25,325). The estimated product of a penny rate is £355.

The Urban Area is divided into 5 wards :

Ward 1. Llanhilleth.—This includes that part of Llanhilleth south-east of the Nant-Cuffin, with the portions of Crumlin and Hafodyrynys which are within the district. Members on Council, 2. Area, 894 acres. Electors, 2,460.

Ward 2. Aberbeeg.—Comprises Aberbeeg and that portion of Llanhilleth N.W. of the Nant Cuffin. Members on Council, 3. Area, 927 acres. Electors, 2,744.

Ward 3. Six Bells.—Comprises Warm Turn, Six Bells, and that portion of Abertillery south of Cwm Road and the Vivian Pit. Members on Council, 2. Area, 1,092 acres. Electors, 3,145.

Ward 4. Abertillery.—Comprises the township of Abertillery, with the exception of the portions included in Wards 3 and 5. Members on Council, 5. Area, 1,151 acres. Electors, 4,637.

Ward 5. Cwmtillery.—Consists of Cwmtillery with Penybont, Blaenau Gwent, and Brynteg. Members on Council, 6. Area, 2,400 acres. Electors, 5,964.

The chief centres of population are :—Cwmtillery, in the Blaentillery Valley to the north; Abertillery, at the junction of the Blaentillery and Ebbw Fach Valleys; Six Bells, in the Ebbw Fach Valley to the South of Abertillery; Aberbeeg, at the junction of the Ebbw with the Ebbw Fach; and Llanhilleth and Crumlin in the Ebbw Valley to the south.

The Upper Coal Measures have been almost wholly denuded, but the Pennant Series form a moorland plateau from 1,200 to 1,600 feet above sea-level, through which valleys, deep, narrow, and confluent, run from north to south regardless of the geological formation. The whole of the Blaentillery Valley and portions of the Valleys of the River Ebbw and its tributary, the Ebbw Fach, are within the area. The Tillery coal vein, at the base of the Pennant Series, outcrops in long lines on the sides of the valley north of Aberbeeg, and has been worked by levels.

Births.

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
Number of Births ..	446	487	446	474	508
Birth Rate per 1,000 —					
Abertillery	16.4	17.07	16.2	16.9	18.09
England and Wales ..	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.8	16.7
Small Towns ..	15.7	15.5	16.7	16.7	18.7

The total number of births registered locally during 1953 as belonging to the district was 193, of which 86 were males and 107 females.

The number of births registered outside the District was 253, (males 123, females 130).

The Registrar General's return of births is 446. Of this number, 209 were males and 237 females.

The number of legitimate births was 204 males and 225 females.

The total number of illegitimate births from the Registrar General's return is 17 (5 males, 12 females).

The number of births during the year 1953 is 41 less than was recorded for 1952.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 29.1 per thousand.

TABLE 1. Showing the Vital Statistics for England and Wales, etc., the Administrative County of Monmouthshire and Abertillery Urban District for the years 1952 and 1953.

	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population				Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births	
	Live Births	Still Births	Live Births	Still Births	1952	1953	1952	1953
	1952	1952	1953	1953				
England and Wales	15.3	0.35	15.5	0.35	11.3	11.4	27.6	26.8
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ..	16.9	0.43	17.0	0.43	12.1	12.2	31.2	30.8
160 smaller towns (Resident population 25,000-50,000 at 1931 census)	15.5	0.36	15.7	0.34	11.2	11.3	25.8	24.3
London Administrative County ..	17.6	0.34	17.5	0.38	12.6	12.5	23.8	24.8
Administrative County of Monmouthshire	17.17	0.468	16.79	0.47	11.52	11.58	33.87	32.63
Abertillery Urban District ..	17.07	0.46	16.4	0.55	11.8	12.0	49.2	29.1

Causes of Death.

TABLE II.

<i>Causes of Death.</i> ALL CAUSES					M. 186	F. 142
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	2			
2.	Tuberculosis, other	1	—			
3.	Syphilitic disease	—	1			
4.	Diphtheria	—	—			
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—			
6.	Meningococcal infections	—	—			
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—			
8.	Measles	1	—			
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—			
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	3			
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	—			
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2			
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3			
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	8			
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—			
16.	Diabetes	—	1			
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	22			
18.	Coronary disease, angina	27	16			
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	3	2			
20.	Other heart disease	32	36			
21.	Other circulatory disease	4	9			
22.	Influenza	—	3			
23.	Pneumonia	6	3			
24.	Bronchitis	20	10			
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1			
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	—			
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1			
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1			
29.	Hypertrophy of prostate	6	—			
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—			
31.	Congenital malformations	1	1			
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	13			
34.	Motor vehicle accidents	—	1			
35.	Suicide	2	—			
36.	Homicides and operations of war	—	—			
37.	All other Accidents	9	4			
Deaths in infants under 1 year of age :					6	7
Legitimate					5	7
Illegitimate					1	—
TOTAL BIRTHS						
Legitimate					204	225
Illegitimate					5	12
STILL BIRTHS					7	8
Legitimate					7	8
Illegitimate					—	—
TOTAL					7	8

Estimated population 1953 for birth and death rates, 27,150.

TABLE III.

Month	Male	Female	Total	Quarterly Births	Wards				
					1	2	3	4	5
January ..	8	8	16	42	1	3	2	2	8
February ..	5	5	10		—	3	4	—	3
March ..	5	11	16		3	5	2	2	4
April ..	5	12	17		4	2	1	4	7
May ..	7	16	23	51	2	7	2	5	7
June ..	6	5	11		1	2	4	—	4
July ..	7	10	17		—	5	1	1	10
August ..	3	8	11	53	1	2	1	3	4
September ..	12	13	25		7	7	2	3	6
October ..	7	7	14		1	6	3	1	3
November ..	9	5	14		5	3	1	2	3
December ..	12	7	19	47	—	3	4	2	10
Total ..	86	107	193	193					
Inward Transferable Births ..	123	130	253						
Grand Total for 1953 ..	209	237	446						

Showing the number of births registered in the Abertillery Urban Area during 1953, according to sex, month, quarter of occurrence, and ward distribution together with inward transferable births.

TABLE IV. Showing the infant deaths (*i.e.*, deaths in infants under 1 year of age) assigned to this district during 1953, by cause and in age groups.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	Total under 1 month					Total deaths under 1 year			
		1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	1 year
Prematurity ..	5	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Convulsions ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Supra-nal Haemorrhage ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ..	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
Haemolytic Dis. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1

Analysis of Infectious Diseases in this District during 1953. Showing Age/Sex distribution of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified in the District in 1953 also showing Admission of same to Hospital.

Disease	Under 1 year						1-10						11-20						21-30						All Ages						Admitted to Hospital	
	1-		2-		3-		4-		5-		10-		15-		20-		35-		45-		65 years and upwards		All Ages									
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f						
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	3	7	3	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	5	2					
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Measles	9	6	20	21	14	17	20	31	27	22	54	48	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	290	-	-					
Whooping Cough	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-					
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-					
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-					
Pneumonia	2	2	3	1	2	1	2	-	-	1	3	2	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	1	4	-	-	-	31	-	-					

There were 20 inquests during the year.

The circumstances of the deaths are analysed and are as follows:—

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pneumonoconiosis .. .. .	..	..	..	2	—	2
Cardiac Failure .. .. .	..	..	..	1	3	4
Coronary Insufficiency .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1	2
PIT ACCIDENTS						
Fracture, Base of Skull .. .. .	..	..	..	2	—	2
Multiple Injuries .. .. .	..	..	..	3	—	3
ROAD ACCIDENTS						
Fractured Skull .. .. .	..	..	..	—	1	1
Multiple Injuries .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—	1
DROWNING						
Accidental .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—	1
Suicide .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	2	—	2
Coal Gas Poisoning (Self Administered) ..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Total ..				14	6	20

Zymotic Diseases.

Table No. V shows the notifiable diseases which were notified in the area during 1953.

Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

The immunisation of the pre-school child is now carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres by the various medical officers in attendance. Parents too may make private arrangements with their own general practitioner for such immunisation. To attain the maximum degree of protection by immunisation it is advisable that booster doses should be given when the child first attends school.

Scarlet Fever.

As will be seen from the table, 26 cases were notified of whom 7 were removed to hospital because of the impossibility of complete isolation at home, which is very necessary to prevent the spread of infection. All these cases were of a very mild character and were scattered throughout the district, there being no localised outbreaks.

Measles.

290 cases of Measles were notified during the year.

Whooping Cough.

10 cases were notified during the year.

TABLE VI.

Showing Monthly notification of Tuberculosis (all forms) for the year 1953, with Ward Distribution.

<i>Month</i>	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		TOTAL	WARDS				
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>		1	2	3	4	5
January ..	1	4	1	—	6	1	1	1	2	1
February	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March ..	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—
April ..	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	2
May ..	1	2	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	1
June ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July ..	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
August ..	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	1
September	1	1	2	—	4	—	—	2	—	2
October ..	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
November	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	1	—	2
December	2	2	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	5
	12	15	4	2	33	2	2	8	3	18

TABLE VII.

Year	Yearly Notification of Tuberculosis.				Total Yearly Cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Deaths from Tuberculosis				Total Yearly Deaths from Tuberculosis
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1945	10	18	4	5	37	7	8		2	19
1946	16	11	2	4	33	10	1	—	2	13
1947	15	10	3	4	32	3	5	1	1	10
1948	8	15	1	2	26	7	7	1	1	16
1949	17	9	3	1	30	10	8	1	2	21
1950	10	7	3	2	22	6	3	1	1	11
1951	14	13	1	1	29	5	1	2	1	9
1952	12	9	4	3	28	7	3	2	1	13
1953	12	15	4	2	33	2	2	1	—	5

TABLE VIII. Showing the admissions and discharges to institutions for the treatment of of Tuberculosis during 1953.

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Admissions</i>		<i>Discharges</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Emeglyn	—	2	—	—
St. Brides	—	—	1	1
Chepstow Annexe	4	—	2	—
Gelli-Gaer	—	7	—	5
Glan Ely	5	—	6	—
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth ...	—	—	6	—
Sully	3	4	2	2
Cefn Mably... ..	2	1	3	3
North Wales Sanatorium	—	—	—	3
	14	14	20	14

All cases of suspected Tuberculosis are seen at the Chest Clinic run by the Regional Hospital Board.

The number of new cases examined from the Abertillery District during 1953 was 375 and of these the number of cases diagnosed as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis are as follows:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis 12 males
15 females

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 4 males
2 females

Total number of attendances during 1953 at the Clinic, (*i.e.*, new and old cases during 1953) 852.

TABLE IX. Showing the infant mortality rates for E. and W., the County Boroughs and Great Towns, the smaller towns, the Administrative County of Monmouthshire and Abertillery U.D. for 1952 and 1953.

Year	England and Wales	126 Co. Boroughs & Great Towns (Inc. London)	148 smaller towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	Administrative County of Monmouthshire	Abertillery Urban District
1953	26.8	30.8	24.3	32.63	29.1
1952	27.6	31.2	25.8	33.87	49.2

Meteorological Records.

SUMMARY OF DAILY RECORDS TAKEN AT NEW CEMETERY AND THE PARK, 1952.

Month	The Park		New Cemetery		
	Inches	Rain Days	Sunshine	Temperature	
			Hours	Highest	Lowest
January	1.63	10	6.50	56.2	22.2
February	2.27	11	18.20	61.0	19.0
March	3.13	6	50.30	69.3	21.0
April	6.37	17	85.15	66.0	27.5
May	4.15	12	92.0	77.8	30.4
June	2.82	10	40.30	80.0	37.3
July	6.85	16	74.20	73.5	39.0
August	6.20	12	97.30	82.2	42.5
September	6.51	16	76.40	77.5	38.6
October	4.96	10	54.50	65.5	30.0
November	4.10	16	19.10	54.7	28.7
December	2.00	13	7.10	55.0	27.2

Total inches for year, 50.99 Rain days, 149.

Total hours of Sunshine, 621 hrs. 5 mins.

Highest Temperature for Year, 82.2.

Lowest Temperature for Year, 19.0.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

The following report was kindly supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor, A. GORDON JONES, Esq., M.I.M.C.E.

The collection of Refuse in the Urban Area is carried out with Petrol-Driven Vehicles with covered bodies of semi-circular type so as to prevent, as far as possible, dust being blown about while the lorries are travelling.

Collections are made three times weekly, also collection of Trade Refuse from the Business Premises.

The method of disposal is by the well-known Bradford Method, described as "Controlled Tipping."

On the closing down of the Refuse Destructor at the end of 1928, the disposal of refuse was carried out by crude tipping which quickly resulted in complaints of obnoxious smells, vermin, fires, etc., especially on the Tip at Rose Heyworth Road. In 1932, however, the Council introduced the above described method of disposal by which the refuse was laid down to plan, properly consolidated, and covered over with earth at the end of each days' work. This method eliminates all the nuisances attendant on the old method, and is being used to provide facilities for recreation. The Council have formed Sports Grounds at Rose Heyworth Road for the Abertillery Grammar School, and the Ground, when completed by the School Authority, will include a Football Field, Hockey Pitch, Cricket Pitch and Tennis Courts.

Other Grounds completed are at the Walpole Field, Llanhilleth, and one at Brynithel, Llanhilleth, a Children's Playground and Recreation Ground at Aberbeeg, and another Recreation Ground is being formed at the Woodland Field, Cwmtillery. Considerable interest is being shewn in these activities by neighbouring Authorities, and several Councils have sent their Representatives to view the progress and method of the work.

THE ABERTILLERY & DISTRICT WATER BOARD.

The Engineer to the Board, W. CORY GODDARD, Esq., M.INST.C.E., M.INST.W.E., A.M.I.MECH.E., has supplied the following particulars.

The total rainfall for 1953, at Grwyne Fawr Reservoir, Breconshire, was 43.36 inches as compared with 57.34 inches in 1952, and 65.63 inches in 1951.

During 1953, the highest monthly rainfall recorded was 5.49 inches in July and the lowest was 1.40 inches in January.

The highest daily rainfall recorded was 1.60 inches on the 29th March. Rain fell on 177 days at the Reservoir during 1953.

The mains and service pipes in the Board's district are continually tested and inspected for leakages and many repairs are carried out to cracked and fractured pipes, caused mainly through subsidence.

Work on the Board's Llanover Water Scheme commenced on the 1st January, 1953.

Public Sanitary Conveniences.

ABERTILLERY.

Rose Heyworth Road

Royal Lane, Blaenau Gwent, (facing Blaenau Gwent Chapel).

Alma Street.

Foundry Bridge. (Ladies' and Gents').

Tillery Road (below Club Row).

Bush Hill.

Alexandra Road (Ladies and Gent's) opposite Cwm Hotel,

Market Street.

Near New Bridge End Inn, Penybont.

Cwmtillery.

SIX BELLS.

Near Six Bells Bridge.

Near Coach and Horses Inn.

ABERBEEG.

Near G.W.R. Station.

LLANHILLETH.

Opposite Ty'r Graig Schools.

Near Central Hotel (at foot of hill over railway bridge).

CRUMLIN.

Near Viaduct Hotel.

Common Lodging House.

There is only one registered common lodging house in the district and this is situate at Crumlin. The premises are kept in a clean condition and in good repair.

Pit-Head Baths.

Pit-head baths are now established in connection with the Rose Heyworth, Cwmtillery and Llanhilleth Collieries, and also the new Arael Griffin Baths were opened during the year.

These establishments are working satisfactorily and are proving a great boon to those engaged in the industry.

Other pit-head baths are required, and plans at present are under consideration.

Swimming Baths.

There is one swimming bath in this area situated in the Park at Abertillery, and controlled by the Abertillery U.D.C.

This is an open-air bath, which was originally constructed in 1900, and measured 90 feet x 30 feet, with 88,594 gallons capacity. The bath was modernised in 1936 at a cost of £3,000, providing a bath 92 feet x 43 feet, with 125,000 gallons capacity. The special filtration plant is capable of "turning the water over" in six hours. There are 20 cubicles for men and 13 for women, with provision for sun-bathing on concrete promenades.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Date of Construction | 1900—Modernised 1936. |
| 2. Open-air or Covered | Open-air. |
| 3. Cost of Construction | Modernisation £3,000. |
| 4. Capacity : | |
| (a) Dimensions | 92ft. x 43ft. |
| (b) Gallonage to fill | 125,000. |
| (c) Number of bathers provided for | 33 Cubicles. |
| 5. Method of Purification | Filtration and Chlorinisation Plant. |
| 6. How often changed | Six-hourly periods of "turn over" |
| 7. Source of Water Supply. | Local. |
| (a) If local, estimated flow | (a) 30/60 gallons per minute according to season from adjacent stream. |
| | (b) Mains supply. |
| (b) If purchased, cost per 1,000 gallons. | (a) Annual easement for water right. |
| | (b) 2/- per 1,000 gallons. |

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 8. Laundry facilities (if any) | None. |
| 9. Number of cubicles | 33. |
| 10. Any other dressing accommodation provided | None. |
| 11. Number of Staff engaged | One to Two. |
| 12. Duration of open period | April to September. |

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Sanitary Inspectors, and other Departments of the Council for their willing co-operation during the year.

Yours obediently,

J. WALTERS BOWEN,
Medical Officer of Health.

Abertillery
Urban District Council.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's

REPORT

For the Year

1953.

Public Health Department,
Oddfellows Hall,
Queen Street,
Abertillery, Mon.

The following is my report on work carried out by the Department for the year ending December 31st, 1953.

The Sanitary Administration and Conditions for the year 1953

The following tables show particulars of the work carried out by the Sanitary Officers :—

Visits to Animals, etc., kept :—

Piggeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Stables	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Fowls, pigeons	..	..	..	..	..	..	25

Complaints :—

Total number investigated (all premises)	..	..	..	588
Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	14

Dairies :—

Premises examined	..	..	..	..	103
Number of Purveyors' vehicles	..	..	..	..	50

Drainage :—

Number of main or branch drains smoke tested	..	..	34
" " " " " " colour tested	..	..	69
" " " " " " found defective	..	..	55
" " " " " " re-constructed	..	..	38
Visits to works in progress	..	..	88

Dwelling Houses :—

Number inspected <i>re</i> complaint of nuisance	..	..	493
Number re-inspected " "	..	..	496
Number inspected <i>re</i> overcrowding	..	..	1
Interviews with Owners	120
" " Tradesmen	127

Licensed Houses, Cafes, etc. examined <i>re</i> urinals, W.C.	..	41
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Miscellaneous Visits :—

Visits not otherwise classified	237
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Offensive Trade premises	14
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Public Conveniences :—

Number inspected	114
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Amusement premises	78
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Special visits (not classified above) <i>re</i> works in progress	..	39
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The nuisances were :—

Defective Roofs, troughing, down-pipes, etc.	126
Defective Window-frames, doors, etc.	27
Defective or insufficient yard paving	..	..	4
Damp or Defective Walls, external	..	..	25
Choked or defective drainage	..	..	40
Insufficient W.C. and slop-water drainage	..	..	15
Defective and insufficient closet accommodation	..	..	26

Defective and insufficient water supply	1
Miscellaneous nuisances	56
Defective ceilings	33
Defective walls (internal)	19
Defective floors	15

Many and varied were the nuisances discovered. In some cases the owners and occupiers were interviewed and the nuisances abated at once, and in other cases legal notices were served.

Foods.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of persons registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1950.

Number on Register in 1953	28
Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	24
Licensed to sell Sterilised Milk	19
Licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	22

Supplementary Licences to sell—

Sterilised Milk	1
Pasteurised Milk	5
T.T. Milk	3

The number of inspections made last year was 103.

6 samples of milk were tested in the area during the year ended 31st December, 1953.

ICE CREAM.

Number of premises registered during the year	7
Number of premises registered	67
Number of registered persons producing	3
Number of inspections of premises and vehicles	73

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following particulars show the amount of attention given to securing a wholesome supply of food.

Visits to Premises :—

Fish, fruit and vegetable shops	..	..	..	..	105
Meat shops	..	..	..	..	391
Fried fish and chip shops	..	..	..	..	111
Bakchouses	..	..	..	..	105
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	84
Premises registered for the preparation of food	..				128
Other premises where food is prepared, sold or stored	..				304
Cafes and Hotels	..	..	..	..	41

STORES AND VEHICLES.

Attention is being given to the cleanliness of vehicles, wrappers, etc., used for bringing meat into the district and for conveying meat to the shops, and the conditions are satisfactory.

The men who handle such meat are compelled to wear clean overalls.

There is no public abattoir.

All slaughtering is now centralised at Brynmawr.

FRIED FISH AND CHIP SHOPS.

There are 15 registered shops in the area which are kept in a satisfactory condition.

111 inspections of these premises were carried out.

OTHER FOODS.

Meat, fish and fruit shops are regularly visited, and the food exposed for sale or stored is examined.

Pork butchers' premises, where sausage meat and small goods are prepared, receive great and constant attention.

Bakchouses are regularly inspected, and the sanitary conditions are noted and dealt with as required.

One case of food poisoning was recorded in the district during 1953.

The Sale of Food and Drugs Act is administered by the Monmouthshire County Council.

Food Inspection.

The following show the variety of Food Stuffs condemned :—

Fruit	49 jars
Fruit	572 tins
Mincemeat	1 tin
Steak and Vegetable	3 tins
Baked Beans	78 „
Tomatoes	831 „
Fish	22 „
Veal and Ham Loaf	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs
Luncheon Meat	3 tins
Sauce	1 bottle
Jam	1 jar
Flour	3 lbs.
Soup	10 tins
Evaporated Milk	241 „
Jellied Veal	111 lbs.
Cooked Ham	1,016 lbs.
Minced Beef Loaf	36 tins
Meat	2 „
Condensed Milk	3 „
Irish Stew	8 „
Stewed Steak	28 „
Peas	71 „
Beef Steak Pudding	8 „
Minced Beef Loaf	80 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Luncheon Meat	85 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
Pickles	9 jars
Tongue	2 tins
Haddock (smoked)	8 stone
Sausage	687 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Ham	30 „
Cheese	112 „
Celery Cheese	15 boxes
Bacon	20 lbs.

Pork Trimmings	..	..	..	19 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Beef	..	..	..	63 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Salmon Spread	..	..	..	6 jars
Baby Food	..	..	..	9 tins
Jam	..	..	..	6 lbs.
Butter	..	..	..	9 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Cream	..	..	..	5 tins
Coffee	..	..	..	5 ..
Marionettes	..	..	..	12 boxes
Icing Sugar	..	..	..	10 lbs.
Derling Cheeses	..	..	..	84
Tongue	..	..	..	34 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Corned Beef	..	..	..	19 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Pressed Pork	..	..	..	8 $\frac{3}{4}$..
Chopped Pork	..	..	..	7 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Croned Mutton	..	..	..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Savoury Ducks	..	..	..	168
Mayonnaise	..	..	..	15 jars
Salad Cream	..	..	..	16 ..
Pork	..	..	..	65 lbs.
Pigs' Heads	..	..	..	73 ..
Stew	..	..	..	24 tins
Miscellaneous Tins	..	..	..	18
Potted Chicken	..	..	..	10 jars
Stewed Steak	..	..	..	53 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Maws	..	..	..	56 ..
Biscuits	..	..	..	3 dozen
Rabbits	..	..	..	12
Cod Fillets	..	..	..	6 stone
Sweets	..	..	..	7 lbs.
Peeled Shrimps	..	..	..	1 tin
Mixed Vegetables	..	..	..	1 ..
Pork Brawn	..	..	..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Rice	..	..	..	98 ..
Beetroot	..	..	..	2 tins

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—								
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	
1. <i>Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—</i>								
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers							87	
2. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.</i>								
(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.								
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs								—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—								
(a) By owners								—
(b) By local authority in default of owners								—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—								
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied								38
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—								
(a) By owners								29
(b) By local authority in default of owners								2

Housing, 1953.

SHOWING THE NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY
ABERTILLERY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL AT 31/12/53

	<i>Temp. Pre-fabs</i>	<i>Perm. Pre-fabs</i>	<i>Traditional (Including requisitioned Property)</i>	TOTAL
*No of houses owned by Local Authority on 31/12/53 (including Flats)	100	220	344	664
No. of houses in course of erection on 31/12/53 ...	—	80	—	80
No. of houses for which sanction had been given, but which had not been commenced on 31/12/53 ...	—	—	93	93
†By Local Authority . . .	—	26	—	26
†By Private Enterprise . . .	—	—	4	4
TOTAL	—	26	4	30

*Showing the number of Houses owned by Abertillery Urban District Council at 31/12/53.

†Showing the number of Houses erected by the Abertillery Urban District Council and by Private Enterprise during 1953.

REGISTERED FACTORIES.

Factories without Mechanical Power :—

Boot repairers	1
Carpentry and Joinery	3
Radio and Electrical repairs.. .. .	1
Total	5

Factories with Mechanical Power :—

Bake-houses	10
Brewers	1
Motor repairers	8
Mortar Mills	2
Carpentry and Joinery	1
Undertakers	2
Sausage and Cooked Meats.. .. .	3
Boot repairers	1
Dressmaking	2
Industrial Gloves	1
Monumental Masons	1
Wagon repairers	1
Iron Foundries	1
Non-Ferrous Foundry	1
Tin Plating	1
Gas Works	1
Printing Works	3
Manufacturing Chemists	1
Lampshade Making	1
Precast Concrete Making	1
Electrical Equipment repairs.. .. .	1
Dairies	1
Icecream	1
Watch repairers	1
Works of Engineering	1
Total	48

Factory Act, 1937.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Occupier Prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 enforced by Local Authority ..	5	46	—	—
(2) Factories not inc. in (1) to which Section 7 applies ..	47	163	—	—
(a) Subject to the L/A's (transfer of Enforcement) Order 1938				
(b) Others ..	—	—	—	—
(3) Other premises under the Act (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	1	8	—	—
TOTAL	53	217	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>			<i>Number of Prosecutions</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Insp.</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	12	12	—	—
Want of ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective	2	2	2	—
{ not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	14	14	2	—

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

Name of Local Authority—ABERTILLERY U.D.C. (County)—MONMOUTHSHIRE.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Total
	Local Authority 1	Dwelling houses 2	Agricultural 3	All other (in- cluding Business Premises). 4	
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) ...	26	7181	26	582	7815
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1953 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey or otherwise (Notes 1, 2 and 3)...	(a) 1	82	1	21	105
	(b) 20	472	21	182	695
III. Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3) ...	Major -	-	-	4	4
	Minor 7	57	-	10	74
IV. Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 and 3) ...	2	219	-	14	235
V. Number of infested properties (see Sections III & IV) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	9	276	-	28	313
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4 :— (1) Treatment ...	-	-	-	-	-
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ...	-	9	-	-	9

In conclusion, I wish to thank all Departments of the Council for their willing co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. A. PARRY,
Senior Inspector.





